Thomas Leonard Owens

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
ILLINOIS

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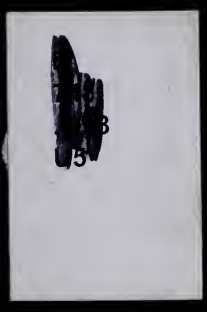

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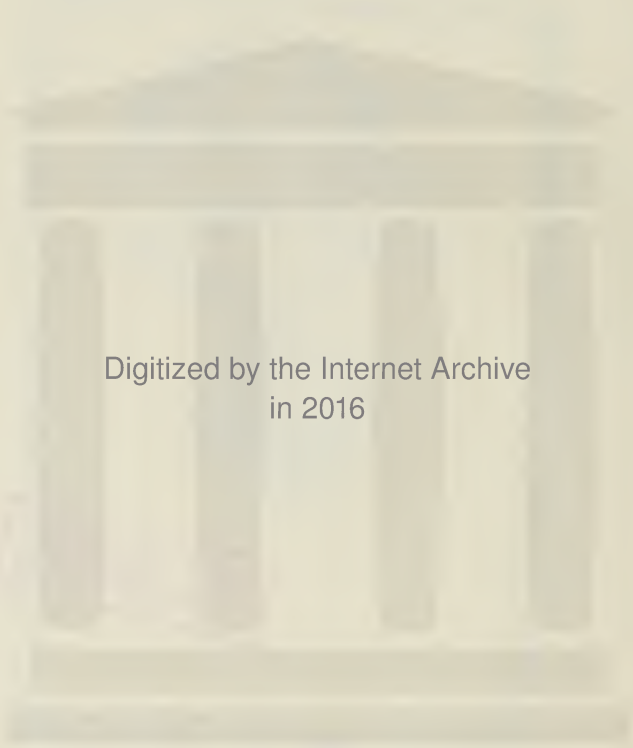
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Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER WITH
REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

Thomas Leonard Owens

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
ILLINOIS

Eighty-first Congress
First Session

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1950

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Biography

THOMAS LEONARD OWENS was born in Chicago, Cook County, Ill., December 21, 1897; attended the parochial schools, Northwestern University, Chicago, Ill., and De Paul University, Chicago, Ill.; was graduated from Loyola University Law School, Chicago, Ill., in 1926; was admitted to the bar in 1927 and commenced practice in Chicago, Ill.; during the First World War served in the Students' Army Training Corps at Loyola University in 1918; elected as a Republican to the Eighteenth Congress and served from January 3, 1947, until his death in the naval hospital, Bethesda, Md., June 7, 1948; interment in All Saints' Cemetery, Chicago, Ill.

In the House of Representatives

THURSDAY, *May 12, 1949.*

Mrs. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on House Administration, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 186) providing for holding memorial services on Wednesday, May 25, 1949 (Rept. No. 574), and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That on Wednesday, the 25th day of May 1949, immediately after the approval of the Journal, the House shall stand at recess for the purpose of holding the memorial services as arranged by the Committee on House Administration under the provisions of clause (1) (j) (2) (C) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The order of exercises and proceedings of the service shall be printed in the Congressional Record, and all Members shall have leave for 60 legislative days to extend their remarks in the Congressional Record on the life, character, and public service of deceased Members. At the conclusion of the proceedings, the Speaker shall call the House to order and then as a further mark of respect to the memories of the deceased he shall declare the House adjourned.

* * * * *

The resolution was agreed to.

Memorial Services
in the
House of Representatives

Eighty-first Congress
First Session

Memorial Service Program

Prelude, sacred selections (11:30 to 12)--United States Army Band

Presiding officer----------The Speaker, Hon. Sam Rayburn

Invocation----------The Chaplain, Dr. James Shera Montgomery

Solo, There Is No Death (O'Hara)----------Mr. Robert C. Nicholson
At the piano------Sgt. Albert Goepper

Scripture reading and prayer----------The Chaplain

Roll of deceased Members
The Clerk of the House of Representatives

Devotional silence.

Address----------Hon. Reva Beck Bosone
Representative from the State of Utah

Solo: Requiem (Homer)----------Mr. Robert C. Nicholson
At the piano------Sgt. Albert Goepper

Address----------Hon. Frances P. Bolton
Representative from the State of Ohio

Taps----------Sgt. Charles Barnes

Echo----------Sgt. George Myers

Benediction----------The Chaplain

Thomas Leonard Owens

Memorial Services

WEDNESDAY, *May 25, 1949.*

The SPEAKER of the House of Representatives (Mr. Rayburn) presided.

The Chaplain, Dr. James Shera Montgomery:

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy holy spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee and worthily magnify Thy holy name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mr. Robert C. Nicholson, accompanied at the piano by Sgt. Albert Goepper sang There Is No Death (O'Hara).

The CHAPLAIN—

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the pres-

ence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil: my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

"As I stand by my cross on the lone mountain's crest,
Looking over the ultimate sea,
In the gloom of the mountain a ship lies at rest,
And one sails away from the lea.
One spreads its white wings on a far-reaching track,
With pennant and sheet flowing free;
One hides in the shadow with sails laid aback—
The ship that is waiting for me!

"But lo! in the distance the clouds break away!
The Gate's glowing portals I see;
And I hear from the outgoing ship in the bay
The song of the sailors in glee.
So I think of the luminous footprints that bore
The comfort o'er dark Galilee;
And wait for the signal to go to the shore,
To the ship that is waiting for me."

Heavenly Father, our minds are arrested as we pause to meditate upon the brevity of this life and the immortality of the human soul. Thy providential care towers above the horizons of human needs, and reveals the ultimate blessing to those who pass this way. Our hearts sing, "God cares."

O Thou who didst bow Thy head upon the cross, comfort the sorrowing ones who linger here. Not in vain do we call upon Thee, for we know that neither death, nor life, nor powers, nor any other creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

ROLL OF DECEASED MEMBERS

Mr. Alney E. Chaffee, reading clerk of the House of Representatives, read the following roll:

JOHN HOLMES OVERTON, a Senator from the State of Louisiana: Born September 17, 1875; lawyer; graduated from the Louisiana

State University at Baton Rouge in 1895 and from Tulane University at New Orleans in 1897; former member of the board of supervisors of Louisiana State University; Member of the House of Representatives, the Seventy-second Congress; elected to the United States Senate in 1932, 1938, and 1944; died May 14, 1948.

HARLAN JOHN BUSHFIELD, a Senator from the State of South Dakota: Born August 6, 1882; lawyer; attended the Dakota Wesleyan University at Mitchell, S. Dak.; graduated from the Minnesota University Law School at Minneapolis in 1904; served as Governor of South Dakota, 1939–42; elected to the United States Senate in 1942; died September 27, 1948.

JOSEPH MELVILLE BROUGHTON, a Senator from the State of North Carolina: Born November 17, 1888; lawyer; attended Hugh Morson Academy, Wake Forest College, and Harvard University Law School; member of the State senate, 1927–29; served on the board of trustees of Wake Forest College and the University of North Carolina; Governor of North Carolina, 1941–45; elected to the United States Senate in 1948; died March 6, 1949.

THOMAS LEONARD OWENS, Seventh Congressional District of Illinois: Born December 21, 1897; lawyer; attended Northwestern University and De Paul University, Chicago, Ill.; graduated from Loyola University Law School, Chicago, Ill., in 1926; served as a private in World War I; Member of the Eightieth Congress; died June 7, 1948.

MILTON HORACE WEST, Fifteenth Congressional District of Texas: Born June 30, 1888; lawyer; attended the West Texas Military Academy, San Antonio, Tex.; served with Company C, Texas Rangers, in 1911 and 1912; district attorney, 1922–25; assistant district attorney, 1927–30; served in the State house of representatives, 1930–33; Member of the Seventy-third to Eightieth Congresses, inclusive; died October 28, 1948.

JOHN JOSEPH DELANEY, Seventh Congressional District of New York: Born August 21, 1878; merchant; lawyer; attended St. James' Academy, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Manhattan College, New York City; graduated from Brooklyn Law School; St. Lawrence University, in 1914; delegate to the Democratic State conventions in 1922 and 1924; deputy commissioner of public markets of New York City, 1924–31; Member of the Sixty-fifth and the Seventy-second to the Eightieth Congresses, inclusive, and Member-elect of the Eighty-first Congress; died November 18, 1948.

SOL BLOOM, Twentieth Congressional District of New York: Born March 9, 1870; music publisher; captain in the New York Naval Reserves in 1917; director of the United States George Washington

Bicentennial Commission; director general of the United States Constitution Sesquicentennial Commission; chairman of Committee on Celebration of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the United States Supreme Court; director and United States Commissioner, New York World's Fair, 1939; Member of the Sixty-eighth to the Eighty-first Congresses, inclusive; died March 7, 1949.

ANDREW LAWRENCE SOMERS, Tenth Congressional District of New York: Born March 21, 1895; manufacturer; attended Manhattan College and New York University in New York City; served in World War I as a hospital apprentice, ensign, and naval aviator; delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1928; Member of the Sixty-ninth to the Eighty-first Congresses, inclusive; died April 6, 1949.

ROBERT LEWIS COFFEY, JR., Twenty-sixth Congressional District of Pennsylvania: Born October 21, 1918; engineer; soldier; attended the University of Pittsburgh and Penn State College; appointed as a flying cadet in 1939 and during World War II served through successive promotions from second lieutenant to lieutenant colonel; flew 97 combat missions; received numerous citations and decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross 8 times, and the Air Medal 27 times; served as military air attaché, United States Embassy, Santiago, Chile, 1945–48; Member of the Eighty-first Congress; died April 20, 1949.

Mrs. NORTON, a Representative from the State of New Jersey, standing in front of the Speaker's rostrum, placed a memorial rose in a vase as the name of each deceased Member was read by the Clerk.

There followed a period of devotional silence, during which the Members stood.

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Utah [Mrs. Bosone].

Hon. REVA BECK BOSONE, a Representative from the State of Utah, delivered the following address:

ADDRESS BY HON. REVA BECK BOSONE

Mrs. BOSONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with gratitude that I accept your invitation to participate in today's memorial exercises. I realize the responsibility of fully expressing the spirit of warm friendship and the reverence which the

Members of this distinguished body have for those comrades who have lifted that curtain of mystery and gone on to eternal rest. It is with a spirit of humility that I attempt my assignment.

It singeth low in every heart,
We hear it each and all—
A song of those who answer not,
However, we may call;
They throng the silence of the breast,
We see them as of yore—
The kind, the brave, the sweet,
Who walk with us no more.

It's hard to take the burden up
When these have laid it down;
They brightened all the joy of life,
They softened every frown;
But, oh, 'tis good to think of them
When we are troubled sore!
Thanks to God that such have been,
Although they are no more.

More homelike seems the vast unknown,
Since they have entered there;
To follow them were not so hard,
Wherever they may fare;
They cannot be where God is not,
On any sea or shore;
Whate'er betides, thy love abides,
Our God, forever more.

Thanks be to God that such have been,
Although they are no more.

Bright is the morning with glaring light when the sun rises in the east. Brighter still become its rays as the morning grows into noon—the most brilliant part of the day. As afternoon wears on, the heavens shade the brilliance with colors in full bloom—the sunset. Then the twilight gathers in luxuriant hues, evening descends, and darkness puts the world to sleep.

So it is with the life span of man. With great exultation a child is born. A smile is on every face. With each hope

of life's expectancy, dreams are translated into reality. At the noontime of man's life great in luster is his development, varied is his activity, and bright is his future. As life wears on, his colorful contributions envelop him. Twilight slows the pace but sweetens the path—night descends. He who was once a child becomes a man, and in the evening of his life slips away into the night to rest forever.

In the midst of today's turmoil and haste, it is fitting that we pause to pay homage to those Members of Congress who in this past year have answered their last roll call. When those illustrious gentlemen—Senators JOHN HOLMES OVERTON, of Louisiana; HARLAN JOHN BUSHFIELD, of South Dakota; and JOSEPH MELVILLE BROUGHTON, of North Carolina—answered to their names on those heavenly rolls, I am sure it was with a strong voice of conviction, and that they went with a firm step of courage—two qualities so eminent in these distinguished statesmen.

It was with sweet satisfaction that I perused the Records and found sincere appreciation of the attributes of each of the Members of the House when notice came of his passing. Let me pay tribute to them in the words of one of their colleagues:

I know no man who assumed his responsibilities and duties as a Member of Congress more seriously than TOM OWENS. His name will go down in history as one of those rare individuals who made a thorough study of legislation and fought for what he considered to be right and just and in the best interests of the people of our glorious country.

Those who served with MILTON WEST know that he was firm in his convictions and, moreover, that he had the courage to stand by them at all times and under all circumstances. Here was the type of Representative who never deviated from what he considered the fundamental principles of sound government.

JOHN DELANEY was not only a lovable personality but a man of understanding nature; a man with whom anyone could live, without regard to differences of opinion or race or color or creed, because he was possessed of that one spirit, which I think is more important to enable people to live together than anything else—

the spirit of understanding, of respect of one for the other, with an understanding state of mind.

America gave SOL BLOOM his opportunity and America honors him in passing. He was a devoted public servant. He represents the challenge of our civilization.

ANDREW SOMERS was a great student and authority on the Constitution of the United States—its origin and its interpretation. He was perhaps the greatest authority in the House on the world monetary situation. President Roosevelt recognized his knowledge and ability by appointing him a delegate to the International Monetary Conference that was held in London.

It has brought sorrow to the hearts of all of us to see the sudden passing from our midst of so young a man as Col. ROBERT COFFEY—one who had such a brilliant record in the war and who bore such promise of great accomplishment in the field of government and statesmanship.

To these tributes which have already been spoken, those of us here know that we can add one other tribute which is applicable to each and every one of these men. It is this: "As the soldier died in patriotic service, so did he."

Today the eyes of the whole world are centered on the building in which we now sit—the Capitol of the United States. The words that are spoken and the deeds that are consummated here have a deep and abiding effect on men and women all around the globe. Unrequested, our great country through its humanitarian philosophy has assumed world leadership and world responsibility.

That this country now sits on this pinnacle of preeminence is due in no small measure to many of the men who stood during their lifetime in the well of this House.

> Thanks be to God that such have been,
> Although they are no more.

'Tis true—no more they live in their worldly tabernacles—no more do we feel the warmth of their friendly smile, the grip of a strong handshake—the chastisement of our views on legislation, sometimes deserved. But truly we feel the inspiration of what they said—and what they did. Their convictions and their deeds will live forever in the statutes of

this Nation. Their courage and humanity have forged an unbroken chain of friendship among those they met in their service to their country.

> Thanks be to God that such have been,
> Although they are no more.

"No more?" Who can say that? Regardless of a person's religious views or church affiliation, it is difficult to say where this influence leaves off. A word said today, blossoms into a thought tomorrow, and eventually activates a deed. Where is the end? There is none. Kind words and noble deeds go on forever. Their identity is lost, but the identity is not important.

Have you ever sat on the side of a mountain and observed the bigness of the universe? Have you ever stood on a high pinnacle where a panoramic view of God's handiwork overwhelmed you? One's ego vanishes into nothingness upon the sight of God's creation.

There is no end—a beginning of something else—what? Does it matter? If it does, climb to the topmost ridge of the nearest hill and drink in the fresh air and relax in nature's beauty. Fast will come the realization that there is a plan—a beginning, a development—a death—a death that there must be a rebirth. There is no end.

Some trees have shallow roots. They spread widely, but are stumped. Their shadow is large for awhile, but the tree soon topples and is gone.

Other trees send their roots deep into the earth. They reach for the heavens and grow tall. Their shadow is broad and long and remains for hundreds of years.

Some men develop fast and glamorously, but leave without an imprint upon the life of man—their shadow fades.

Other men work slowly but surely for the benefit of their fellowman. Their unselfish and noble thoughts and deeds give them a deep and rich foundation upon which they grow—grow to such a height and with such firm roots that their shadow lasts.

Some had a full day in which to develop; others, like Colonel COFFEY, lived a long life, but a short day.

We have long ceased to count the numerical years of a man's life, his life is calculated only on the scale of achievement, not selfish attainments but contributions to the happiness and security of mankind.

I feel sure that each Member of Congress who has answered the final roll call has shortened his life because he has placed responsibility to his country first. His community and State achievements have been given national expression. The weight of his conscientiousness in his daily work gave him deep roots, a long shadow, and an everlasting influence in the world.

Thanks be to God that such have been,
Although they are no more.

Death is only an old door,
Set in a garden wall;
On gentle hinges it gives, at dusk
When the thrushes call.

There is nothing to trouble any heart;
Nothing to hurt at all.
Death is only a quiet door
In an old wall.

Our beloved colleagues—

Cannot be where God is not,
On any sea or shore;
What e'er betides, thy love abides,
Our God, for ever more.

Mr. Robert C. Nicholson, accompanied at the piano by Sgt. Albert Goepper, sang Requiem (Homer).

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio [Mrs. Bolton].

Hon. FRANCES P. BOLTON, a Representative from the State of Ohio, delivered the following address:

ADDRESS BY HON. FRANCES P. BOLTON

Mrs. BOLTON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, some 15 years ago I was in London on the November day that marks the cease-

fire order of the First World War. We call it Armistice Day, the British call it Remembrance Day, and so observe it.

It was not cold, but there was a mist which now and again became the soft rain with which Londoners are so familiar. Close after dawn the people began to gather at the Cenotaph, that simple monument in the very heart of busiest London to which every cabby unobtrusively tips his hat as he drives by it with a reverence which comes from his heart. There was to be a simple memorial service there in midmorning, read by bishops and archbishops, attended by the King and Queen and all the royal family, and shared by all the great and small who could get near enough to hear, as well as those who just stood quietly beyond the range of sight and hearing.

Many of the battle monuments had been designated as gathering places. We chose the one at Hyde Park corner, where a platoon of the regiment whose dead were honored there stood watch. At a few minutes before 11 a car drove up, several men in the formal morning coats of Members of Parliament got out, and in their turn placed a wreath and took their places beside the monument.

If you knew London in the thirties, you knew the teeming noise of that unbelievably busy corner with its busses, cabs, and cars of every sort, its hawkers of every kind. Then suddenly the bugler sounded the first note of taps, and instantaneously there was silence, hats were off, and we all stood motionless as the poignant call went out, to be taken up in the distance to the north, to the south, to the east, to the west, like echoes in the mist. Tears ran unchecked from the eyes of stalwart men and sad-eyed women as the sound died. Then once again the bugler raised his bugle to his lips—reveille. The English notes vary a little from ours, but there was no mistaking the call.

Deeply moved, I waited until the crowd had gone and I could go quietly up to this bugler and ask some little question which would perhaps draw from him the reason for this second call, as it did. He saluted, tears still in his eyes and

on his cheek. "Yes, lady, we plays them taps and then we plays them reveille to remind us of the Resurrection."

Later in the day we went to Westminster Abbey, outside of which, in the grass plot, miniature cemetery lots had been marked out, each with the name of some regiment, each with rows of tiny crosses made of palm with a red poppy at the crossbar. There were literally thousands of them, and even as we stood there men and women and children came quietly and planted their crosses beside those already there.

And inside the Abbey?

I wish I could paint the picture to you in words you would never forget. We took our places at a side door in the quiet line that had begun its march in the early morning and in a few minutes found ourselves in the great Abbey. Only the chancel was lighted—the boy choir was chanting evensong. A deep red velvet rope outlined the slab under which lies the body of their unknown soldier. Four guards stood at the four corners. Heaped waist high upon the stone were red roses, placed there one by one even as we placed ours as we, too, paid our respects to the unknown dead—a steady stream of men and women from early day to dark—remembering.

Mr. Speaker, we, too, as a Nation have our Memorial Day. We, too, pay homage to our gallant dead who served their country on the battlefields of earth and sky and sea. This we shall do in all the cemeteries of this great land and those beyond the seas when Monday is upon us.

We here of the Congress of this indissoluble Union of great States have our own remembrance day when we come together to honor those who served their country in these halls through years that held both peace and war.

We have gathered here on this lovely spring afternoon in especial remembrance of those men to whom the gateway into the unseen has opened during the past year. Permit me to name them one by one that we may bring them more closely among us at this moment:

Senator JOHN H. OVERTON, Louisiana.

Senator HARLAN J. BUSHFIELD, South Dakota.

Senator J. MELVILLE BROUGHTON, North Carolina.
Representative THOMAS L. OWENS, Illinois.
Representative MILTON H. WEST, Texas.
Representative JOHN J. DELANEY, New York.
Representative SOL BLOOM, New York.
Representative ANDREW L. SOMERS, New York.
Representative ROBERT L. COFFEY, JR., Pennsylvania.

We come to do them honor, these whose span of years is done, with the warmth of their personalities still with us and the echo of their voices still lingering in these halls. We come to commend them to the Almighty and to wish them godspeed on their next adventure.

As is our custom we have invited their families to come among us that they may know we share their loss, that we reach out our hands and hearts to them in their bereavement.

Friends, we welcome you. We hope that there may flow into you the warmth of this fellowship and that it may never grow cold. Especially do I welcome you, for I, too, have sat in those very seats with my sons and have been lifted up on this same tide of understanding. May you take with you from this hour of togetherness a new courage, and a deepened sense of what the years of service given here to our great country by the men you love meant to them and to the land they served. May you know beyond all shadow of doubt that "grief" can be and "should be, like joy, majestic, equable, sedate, confirming, cleansing, raising, making free, strong to consume small troubles, to command great thoughts, grave thoughts, thoughts lasting to the end"—Aubrey de Vere.

May you have learned ere this that grief is but a selfish thing, that death is one with life even as the river and the sea are one. May you have found that "in the depth of your hopes and desires lies your silent knowledge of the beyond, and like seeds dreaming beneath the snow your heart dreams of spring." May I urge you to "trust the dreams, for in them is hidden the gate to eternity"—Khali Gibran.

"A nation is not a tangible thing, not a building of bricks and mortar that will crash to ruins at the first strong blow." A nation is not its laws, its customs, its behavior, even its history. "It is an echo of the past, a whisper from the future, the whole bound together with the lives, the hopes, and the endeavors of millions of men and women"—Daphne du Maurier. The strength of a nation is the morale, the restraint of its people.

Our America was founded upon a dream and established upon a vision. To the peoples of the world, America stands as a symbol of strength and progress, of enlightened living. Let us remember that, whenever we listen for the echoes of other days, and lift our eyes and try to see over the cusp of tomorrow's dawn.

For 90 and more years these very walls have welcomed the men and women who have taken their turn here under the seals of the States of which the Union is made up, to formulate the laws that should protect the freedom which God in His wisdom permits us to enjoy. Insofar as they have had light they have endeavored to be faithful to their solemn oath to protect the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, both without and within, the Constitution which gave us "a threefold cord that is not quickly broken"—Ecclesiastes 3: 7.

How marvelous that great document—that code under which all of us who are a part of government must function to protect the millions of simple men and women from the domination of other individuals and groups as well as that of government itself. Fluid, with its roots in the fundamental truths of man's very existence, containing within itself the formulas of necessary change.

For close to a century within this Chamber, and the Chamber at the other end of the Capitol, the laws of this great representative Republic have been made. Men have come here from every corner of the land to bring their particular points of view, their special contributions, and lay them upon

this altar. Distances are vast, both in miles and in backgrounds of thought. The clash of sectional thinking has often hurled itself back and forth as the spokesman of each area battled for particular interest. And then again the clear bell will ring from the tower of selfless patriotism and all hearts unite as if they were singing with Langston Hughes:

Let America be America again,
Let it be the dream it used to be.
Let it be the pioneer on the plain
Seeking a home where he himself is free.
Let America be the dream the dreamers dream—
Let it be the great strong land of love
Where never kings connive nor tyrants scheme.
—*The Dream of America, Langston Hughes.*

We sit here again today in this old-fashioned Chamber where contention has flared, where compromise has been accomplished, where legislation has been brought forth. Above us the state seals have been a reminder that we are indeed a union of many different and differing groups. Our hearts are softened by our common loss, while before our inner eye pass these with whom we have shared the burden and the joy of service here. We shall miss them always.

Let us hope that the vibrations of loyalty and service of these many years have penetrated deep into these walls, that they may give back to those who listen the charge to be vigilant, the courage to be strong, lest freedom, the most cherished of all man's privileges, be taken from us.

These walls are saying to us even now:

There was a dream that men could one day speak the thoughts of their own choosing.

There was a hope that men could one day stroll through streets at evening, unafraid.

There was a prayer that each could speak to his own God—in his own church.

That dream, that hope, that prayer became America!

Great strength, youthful heart, vast enterprise, hard work make it so.

Now that same America is the dream, the hope, the prayer of the world.

Our freedom, its dream. Our strength, its hope. Our swift race against time, its prayer.
We must not fail the world now.
We must not fail to share our freedom with it afterwards.
Keep singing, keep working, and fight for America.
—*From The Flag Speaks.*

Yes, this land we love was dreamed into being as all things are, for first must come the stirring of the idea and then the bringing it forth into form. But that is not all—for if it is not seized hold upon and built up stone by stone, arch by arch, spire by spire, it will lie quiet until some other comes and builds it to the skies.

When the dream has been dreamed and vision has brought it into being, men must have the courage to find out its depths and heights, its breadth and all its implications and the endurance to work unceasingly to make it live, to protect it from vandals, to share it with those who have it not.

This they have done in goodly measures, these in whose name we gather here—with those whose footsteps have grown faint with the years. May we add their courage and their longings to our own, for we are a Nation so truly wanting to do right, we Americans; but we still mistake the just wanting for the doing, for the being. Just wanting to be friends with others will not make us so. Much must first be built of trust, of confidence, of mutual respect, before there can be the strong handclasp of understanding.

Just crying aloud: Let there be peace, Oh Lord, peace in our time—will not bring peace. When shall we learn the lesson that if we really would end war, if we would preserve freedom, then must we—

Create great peace—
The peace that demands all of a man,
His love, his life, his veriest self;
Plunge him in the smelting fires of a work that becomes his child;
Coerce him to be himself at all hazards, with the toil and the mating that belong to him:
Compel him to serve—
Give him a hard peace: a peace of discipline and justice—

Kindle him with vision, invite him to joy and adventure;
Set him at work, not to create things,
But to create men,
Yes, himself.
Go search your heart, America—
Turn from machine to man,
Build, while there is yet time, a creative peace—
While there is yet time;
For if you reject great peace,
As surely as vile living brings disease
So surely shall your selfishness bring war.
—*From 1914 and After War and Laughter, by James Oppenheim.*

This same thought so forcefully given by James Oppenheim after the First World War was expressed to me in other language in 1945 by an ensign in our Naval Reserve. He wrote:

Be strong, curious, tenacious in your investigations and thinking on the various matters that come before you. Be critical of anything that tends to regulate our lives—demand facts, not fine words, from those who sell these things. Don't be afraid to let us struggle with our lives, for out of struggle comes strong people.

What wisdom in his words. "Do not be afraid to let us struggle with our lives."

Is it perhaps fear that gives birth to measures that would deprive our youth of struggle, of the compulsion to serve, of the discipline of justice? Is it fear that tempts us to give him something other than a hard peace? Are we afraid to turn loose the creative forces of our people to build the creative peace that Oppenheim has said is the one way to keep from war?

If this is so then let us use these precious moments of togetherness to clasp hands, and hearts, reviewing our faith in the God in whom we have put our trust that His power may strengthen our courage and add to it the wisdom and the carelessness of self that are the essentials of leadership. Let

us reconsecrate ourselves to the preservation of freedom with all its implications of individual responsibility and of selfless recognition of the interdependence of men and of nations. Let us remind ourselves that only as we give shall we possess, that only as we strive shall we attain.

These men who were our colleagues only yesterday—and the many others who preceded them, have left a command to service upon us that we may not set aside. Their valiant souls were here among us so short a time ago, striving to serve America.

We salute you, comrades, and we pledge you our word that we shall not falter in the task of protecting freedom here at home. Nor shall we fail to hold the torch high in the darkness that enshrouds the world, that other peoples far across the sea may take fresh heart and go forward toward the dawn. To do this we do know that we must "put our hand into the hand of God for that shall be to us better than a light and safer than a known way"—King George VI. What lies ahead is uncharted territory, unknown ways, for the world has changed, all things are new and we who must walk here yet a little time must take a fresh hold on courage and on faith. And let us be quite certain that could we but hear these comrades of ours as they speak to us they might well be saying:

You must not weep or grieve for me, but see
My joy that all my earthly chains be broke.
I go to other fields, a fairer land—
  New vistas, wider visions meet my eye,
There will be other labors for my hand,
  And new adventures 'neath that other sky.
No sigh nor tears that dissipate the soul
  Can build a lasting monument on earth
For rather would I see my life-work whole,
  See you convert it to some last worth.

—*A Message, by Roscoe Charles Wilson.*

So we have come together for an hour sharing our sorrow, strengthening our faith, taking fresh courage for the work ahead—their work and ours.

Grant us Thy blessing, Lord.

Unveil oh Thou who are the sustenance of the universe, from whom all doth proceed, to whom all must return. Thou face of the true sun now hidden by a vase of golden light, that we may see the truth and do our whole duty on our long journey to Thy sacred seat.

—*From the Sanskrit.*

Sgt. Charles Barnes, United States Army, sounded taps, the echo being sounded by Sgt. George Myers.

The Chaplain pronounced the following benediction:

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and evermore. Amen.

Memorial Address
on
Thomas Leonard Owens

Memorial Address

Remarks by Representative Jonas

Of Illinois

Mr. JONAS. Mr. Speaker, the 7th day of June 1948 recalls to our minds the untimely and sudden death of the former Congressman, THOMAS L. OWENS. This unforeseen tragedy was a great shock to his family, friends, and constituents. TOM, as he was affectionately called by those who knew him best and those intimately acquainted with him, was on the threshold of a formative and successful career as the Representative from the Twelfth District of Illinois when death overtook him.

For TOM OWENS life was real and life was earnest. As a young man he mapped out the course that he wished to pursue by hitching his wagon to a star. At the time of his death, TOM was an outstanding personality in the community where he made his home. He had been elected as the Congressman from the Seventh District of Illinois, which, prior to the reenactment of the State reapportionment act, was the most heavily populated district in the United States.

THOMAS L. OWENS was born in Chicago, Cook County, Ill., on the 21st day of December 1897. His life as a boy and as a young man was symbolic of what perseverance, courage, and an abiding faith in prevailing opportunities can ultimately achieve in this great country. He was educated in the parochial and public schools of Chicago, including advanced study at Northwestern and DePaul Universities, all of which culminated in his enrollment as a law student at Loyola University from which school he graduated in 1926 and had conferred upon him the degrees of Bachelor of Laws and Master of Laws.

His intellectual and spiritual training as a boy can best be evaluated by his conduct as a man, a father and a public citizen. Tom Owens was respected and held in high and affectionate regard by all who came in close contact with him. He was known to despise bigotry, intolerance, sham and hypocrisy. In his personal conduct and demeanor he evidenced traits of character that expressed frankness, sincerity, courage and a pleasing and congenial personality that left a lasting impression on all those who were privileged to associate with him. His inherent abilities extended beyond those appearing on the horizon of the average individual. Quite frequently his attainments and outstanding ability displayed in his profession reflected in no small measure his intellectual capacity for grasping and coping with intricate problems, both of a private and public nature.

Subsequent to entering the practice of law, he elected to specialize in the field of labor-management relations at a time when research and explorations in that particular field were comparatively new and rather limited. Nevertheless he applied himself most assiduously to the tasks before him and by the reason of the results that he obtained, and for the untiring efforts that he put forth, he was repeatedly sought out to act in an advisory capacity or any other helpful manner on committees dealing with labor laws by such outstanding institutions as the Chicago, Illinois, and American Bar Associations. Unfortunately his brilliant career in this particular field of endeavor and specialty in labor law was brought to a sudden close by his untimely death. During his first term in Congress, he was given considerable recognition because of the special knowledge and talent that he possessed and by means of which he was able to make a valuable contribution in the formulation of legislation dealing with labor relations.

In private life, Tom was always ready to make a valuable contribution to society in that he took an active part in mat-

ters pertaining to the welfare of the community where he resided with his family.

He was a man of fine and high ideals who believed in the American way of life. He became interested in local civic functions, playgrounds, schools, parks, and other constituent elements that go to make up a law-abiding community. In advocating or supporting civic problems, he never hesitated to implement in the thoughts and minds of his neighbors, friends, and associates, the ideals for which he stood and to which he fully subscribed.

He participated actively in political controversies and campaigns and was a dominant and outstanding leader in Republican politics in the ward where he made his home. Regardless of the many arduous duties that he assumed, he always had time for creating a little happiness and laughter in life. He was endowed with a rare gift—in all probability inherited from the great race from which he sprung. He had a pleasing tenor voice, and this gift together with his affable personality made him a popular figure in organizations where his talents were fully appreciated. Tom always had a song in his heart for the crowd when the program began to lag or tended to become boresome or too serious.

His untimely passing in the full bloom of manhood coupled with his useful, promising, and brilliant career, made his unexpected death all the more lamentable. He will be long mourned and not soon forgotten. His exemplary conduct as a lawyer, citizen, and public official was not only highly commendable, but inspiring as well. The close, confidential, and affectionate relationship that existed between Congressman Owens and his brother, John, with whom he was associated since his admission to practice law, presented a picture of love, confidence, and esteem between brothers that won the admiration of all those who were privileged to observe this relationship.

Words, no matter how well chosen or sincerely spoken, cannot wipe out the heartache and sorrow that is visited upon

the loved ones who remain to mourn the departed. TOM left surviving him a kind, dutiful, and highly respected wife who is the mother of his three growing and attractive children. Unfortunately the death of TOM OWENS deprived his family of the love and protection which he showered upon them as a kind and thoughtful father and husband. Naturally, his demise has left a void that is irreplaceable in that family and hearts upon which will rest the heavy hand of sorrow for many years to come.

The eulogy due TOM OWENS as he sleeps and lives again in the Great Beyond is not spelled out alone by fine-spun words or phrases. The acts and deeds that he molded into living realities during his life transcend anything in importance that might be said of him now. His life is best typified in the record of constructive service, his aggressive and dynamic personality, his courage and forthrightness, and a dominant and driving force that never knew defeat. Because of these respective attributes and his spiritual and moral concepts of life he militantly, and with confidence, traveled the long and winding road that ultimately led to success and fame.

His departure from this earthly sphere was all too sudden. Where others are called to eternal rest amidst the shadows that accompany the twilight of life, he departed all too soon in the glorious light of a rising sun. Divine providence has decreed that TOM OWENS should be taken from our midst and to forever reside in that celestial home which we know to be a house not built with hands.

It is most fitting and proper that we honor his memory today and I am proud and privileged to join this distinguished audience assembled here in paying tribute to TOM OWENS who, I am sure, will always be remembered as a man of outstanding qualities; a patriotic and loyal American; a veteran of World War I; a capable, industrious, and able lawyer; a constructive and outstanding civic-minded citizen; a courageous and talented public official; and a loving, considerate, kind, and protecting husband and father.

Proceedings
in the
House of Representatives

Proceedings in the House

MONDAY, *June 7, 1948.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Mason].

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker,

There is a Reaper whose name is Death,
And with his sickle keen,
He reaps the bearded grain at a breath,
And the flowers that grow between.

This Grim Reaper has again appeared in our midst, somewhat startlingly, and has removed from among us one of our colleagues, THOMAS OWENS Compared to some of us, TOM OWENS was a youngster—only 50 years of age—active, aggressive, virile. Why he should be taken and some of the older Members, such as myself, left, is very hard to understand. But he was taken—cut off, you might say, in the flower of his full manhood—and we are left. I do not know the outstanding facts about his life. They will be given by others. I shall confine myself to a few chosen words—not my own—to express consolation, hope, and solace to those who were close to TOM and also to the bereaved. An unknown poet expressed this thought of consolation in very beautiful words. The title of this poem is "There Is No Death." These are the words:

THERE IS NO DEATH

There is no death! The stars go down
To rise upon some other shore,
And bright in heaven's jeweled crown
They shine forevermore.

There is no death! The dust we tread
Shall change beneath the summer showers
To golden grain or mellow fruit
Or rainbow-tinted flowers.

There is no death! Although we grieve
When beautiful familiar forms
That we have learned to love
Are torn from our embracing arms;
Although with bowed and breaking heart,
With sable garb and silent tread
We bear their senseless dust to earth,
And say that they are dead.
They are not dead! they have but passed
Beyond the mists that bind us here
Into the new and larger life
Of that serener sphere.
Tho' disenthralled and glorified,
They still are here and love us yet;
The dear ones they have left behind
They never can forget.

Those words are conforting. They intimate that although departed, our loved ones still remain, and our thoughts will remain with them. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that in times like these we must look to that all-embracing Providence that guides our destinies and controls the future.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Sabath].

Mr. SABATH. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed unfortunate that TOM OWENS, one of the most promising young men of this House, now should be taken from us. He was a new Member, but during all my years of service here I never had seen a more active, hard-working, sincere Member than was TOM OWENS.

He succeeded one of the quietest Members, Mr. Link, representing the largest district in Illinois, with a population of over one million. The fact that he succeeded a very capable, sincere, and resolute gentleman shows how he stood in his district and the confidence the people had in him. And it was deserved.

TOM OWENS has been the most active Member of our delegation, and perhaps of the entire membership of this House. He was attentive to his duties, as much as any other Mem-

ber that I can recollect. He was in the House and in the well most of the time, trying to obtain additional information, trying to improve legislation from time to time by many constructive amendments that he offered. It is to be regretted that such an active force for good should be taken away when manhood's morning had little more than touched noon.

He was renominated without opposition. Though he served only one term, he leaves a splendid, enviable record. I regret exceedingly, and I know that all of us who knew him regret his passing. He leaves a widow and three children, to whom I express my sincere compassion. I hope that all of us will realize that, physically, we can stand only a certain amount of trials and tribulations. Had our honored dead not been so active and so desirous to give the country, with a zealotic devotion, all he had of mind and body, the chances are he would still be here with us.

I mourn his untimely passing and once more express my deepest compassion for his bereaved wife, three children, and kinsmen.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may desire to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Dirksen].

Mr. DIRKSEN. Mr. Speaker, there is something inexplicable about life. It is hard to understand why one who had devoted himself to such an abundant life as Tom Owens should be removed from our midst during his first term.

As I think of his fortuity I think of a little story written for the Saturday Evening Post recently. The author was telling about some youngster with tow-colored hair who had landed on one of the islands in the Pacific. He was full of life and spirit. When he saw him next, he was cold, in death. Protruding from the pocket of his blouse was a little book that he carried. The major peered over to see what the title was. It was visible. The title was "Our Hearts Are Young Again."

Those are difficult things to explain, and I think we know that man does not stand alone and that the hand of the great Architect of the universe is behind it all. As I think of those who leave us I think of the epitaph of Benjamin Franklin. He wrote it when he was feeling cheerful. It is one of those interesting things. He said:

> The body of Benjamin Franklin, printer, like the cover of an old book, its contents torn out, and stripped of its gilding and lettering, lies here, food for worms. But the work will not be lost.

No matter how short the term or the time when he was here, the work that he performed for his State, for his community, for his country, will not be lost. It will persist.

I make a special and particular effort to come to these memorial occasions because as we get older it means a little more. As one is removed from our midst we think of the long journey and of the life that is ahead. Always on this occasion there occurs to me that interesting fellowship between Job and his three friends, Bildad, Zophar, and Eliphaz. It would have been a great conference to attend, these three, while Job was being afflicted. And there he asked what today in modern parlance would be called the $64 question: If a man die, shall he live again? We find the answer, and the answer will be echoed in this Chamber. We find it all around us in nature. We know that the work will live and that there will be a higher sphere of activity for those who are removed from us.

Yes; TOM OWENS was indeed an aggressive young man, who, as I say, devoted himself to abundant living. It is a little bit different from the abundant life. Abundant living means to live abundantly on all fronts without too much regard for the creature comforts and for the rewards that may stem therefrom. In a nutshell, I think that would sum up the very vigorous and virile life of TOM OWENS. I join with the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. SABATH] and others in extending to the widow and those three children my sincere

sympathy. May they carry on for the country which he so nobly and so graciously served.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Reed].

Mr. REED of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Tom Owens has departed for his greatest adventure. For two long weeks he fought valiantly. He loved life; he loved people; he loved his family and those with whom he was associated; he loved his service in this House. He strove hard to remain. There was a weakness in his armor—a fault in the shell that enclosed his inner self. That weakness, that fault was beyond human repair. This morning it gave way and his soul went to meet his Maker.

I recall when a schoolboy reading and reciting the account of the Wonderful One-Hoss Shay and how it finally collapsed because there was somewhere "a weakest spot." The great pent-up energy of Tom Owens found his weakest spot.

Serving his first term, Tom Owens made for himself a reputation. Sincerity was one of his outstanding virtues. Honesty was inherent in him. Men like him will ever be needed in public life.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Arends].

Mr. ARENDS. Mr. Speaker, once again the Angel of Death has come to our midst. Our good friend and colleague, Tom Owens, has answered the last call. Right at the height of his career, and what we might well term "in middle life," Tom was stricken with a heart ailment which has caused his untimely death.

Although I had, in a casual way, known Tom for several years before his coming to Congress, since his being a Member of the Eightieth Congress it has been my privilege to become well acquainted with him and to recognize Tom Owens as a great American, one who was always thinking first of his country and the people he represented and last

of himself. Since his being a Member of the House of Representatives, TOM worked day and night in an effort to do the best kind of a job he knew how. The strain of such arduous labor finally broke down his health. Therefore, TOM OWENS, because of his application to duty, because of his sincere love of country and his patriotism, has given his life as a servant of the people.

The Nation and our State of Illinois have lost a splendid legislator and valued public servant. All of us will miss TOM OWENS and we mourn his passing. We extend our most sincere and deepest sympathy to Mrs. Owens and the children. May He, whose peace passeth all understanding, watch and care over the family.

Goodbye, good friend,
In God's good time,
In God's good clime,
We'll meet again,

And in that land
Where we shall know
No pain or woe,
We'll understand.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. O'BRIEN].

Mr. O'BRIEN. Mr. Speaker, although I have known of the physical condition of our friend, the late THOMAS L. OWENS, the news of his death, which came to me this morning, was a distinct shock.

I have known TOM OWENS ever since he became a Member of Congress. He was a man of real ability—courageous, honest, and sincere; and always working for the best interest of the people of his district. I found him to be a hard-working man, who followed his personal convictions and an independence of spirit.

The Seventh District of Illinois has lost a great public servant. I join with my colleagues in extending to his family my sincere sympathy.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Gorski].

Mr. GORSKI. Mr. Speaker, it was a shock to me this morning when I heard over the radio of the death of my friend and colleague, THOMAS L. OWENS I knew he was sick but had hoped that he would recover. I inquired about his condition several times, and was told that he was improving. I had hoped that he would soon recover, knowing that he was getting the best medical attention it was possible to get.

TOM OWENS was born and raised in the locality where I live in Chicago. He received his early education there. Later he moved to the North Side of Chicago. I often talked to him about his old neighborhood, and many of his friends and acquaintances are my close friends. I knew him as a lawyer in Chicago and know the fine reputation he enjoyed among the judges and members of the Chicago bar. He was a tireless worker, an outstanding patriotic citizen. He was a veteran of World War I. We all know how hard he worked as a Member of the House. He represented his district with honor and distinction. He distinguished himself here as one of the hardest-working Members. He took part in every important bill before our body. He was well informed on all pending legislation. He represented his constituents faithfully and diligently. He loved our country and gave it the best in him. They lose a very fine Representative. The country loses a fine legislator. We will all miss him here.

I regret with deep sorrow the loss of a personal friend. We will miss his wise counsel and advice.

To his wife and family I extend my sincerest heartfelt sympathy at the loss of their husband and father.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Busbey].

Mr. BUSBEY. Mr. Speaker, I stand in the well of this House today with a very heavy heart. The country has lost a great American. Our colleague, TOM OWENS, offered his life

in the service of his country as sure as any soldier on the field of battle. I know of no man who assumed his responsibilities and duties as a Member of Congress more seriously than TOM OWENS. I know of no Member of this body who spent more time on the floor of this House when bills were being considered under general debate and read for amendment than TOM OWENS. I know of no Member of this body so well informed on legislation in its entirety as was TOM OWENS. TOM OWENS possessed those fine qualities of character that we admire in men. He was devoted to his family. He was deeply religious. He shunned bad habits. He lived what might be termed an exemplary life. We shall miss his genial nature and dogged determination to make right prevail. Because of the service he wanted to render to his country and the people of his district, he never considered himself. He gave his full energy to his duties as a Member of this body and greatly overtaxed his strength. TOM OWENS' name will go down in history as one of those rare individuals who made a thorough study of legislation and fought for what he considered to be right and just and in the best interest of the people of our glorious country. It can truly be said that TOM OWENS sacrificed his life in the service of his country.

I join with my colleagues in expressing my deepest sympathy to his family, his friends, and may God rest his soul.

> And God will find for such a friend
> Some sweeter slumber in the end.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. GORDON].

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, my heart was very much saddened this morning when I learned of the passing of my colleague from Illinois and good friend, the Honorable THOMAS OWENS. His untimely death has brought to all of his colleagues much sadness, and I join with them in extending to his devoted wife and family my deepest sympathy.

TOM, as we affectionately called him, was one of our ablest Representatives from Illinois and he will be sorely missed. He was a young man and had many years of useful service ahead of him, but when the Grim Reaper calls that call must be answered.

In his passing the Congress has lost a conscientious and hard-working Member, the country has lost a true public servant, and I have lost a sincere friend.

May his soul rest in peace.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Twyman].

Mr. TWYMAN. Mr. Speaker, the news of the passing of our colleague from Illinois, THOMAS L. OWENS, has been received with genuine grief. To me it represents a real loss because of our association over a period of many years. TOM OWENS was one of the first men I knew when I came to Chicago nearly 30 years ago. Those who knew him well knew him to be a devoted husband and father, and admired him for his courage and ability. He was never afraid to express his true feelings on any subject. He was candid and honest in all of his dealings and activities. He fought hard for the principles in which he believed, but always fairly and without malice. As a Member of Congress he devoted his entire time to his duties and made noteworthy contributions to the various important pieces of legislation that were considered by this Eightieth Congress.

TOM OWENS was deeply religious and one of the finest exponents of the Roman Catholic Church, of which he was a devout member. His family has reason to be proud of his accomplishments and this Congress has suffered a great loss by reason of the untimely passing of THOMAS L. OWENS.

The gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Stratton] and I were with Mr. OWENS on the last evening he was in full health. It was a shock the following morning when the gentleman from

Illinois [Mr. Vail] and I were notified of what had taken place at 4 o'clock on that Sunday morning when he was first stricken. TOM knew he was not well. His courage has been referred to repeatedly. The fact that he gave his life is without question. We all recall that on the Wednesday before the Sunday when he was stricken he was on the floor of this House working very hard. His amendments on the highly controversial bill that was before us then were all adopted, and all resulted in the improvement of the bill. All of the time TOM was working so hard he realized the condition of his health.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may desire to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Price].

Mr. PRICE of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, during the first days of TOM OWENS' service in this House I formed a warm close friendship with him. I join my friends and colleagues from the State of Illinois in paying this tribute to his memory.

Like the others I was shocked at the news of his passing. I had known of his serious illness but recent inquiries had led me to believe he had passed the crisis and would recover. We shall all miss his genial companionship. I cannot recall ever seeing him without a pleasant smile, nor have I ever talked to him when he was not expressing deep concern over his work in this House.

TOM OWENS was serving his first term in Congress, but already he had become very well known to almost every Member of this body because of the exceptional interest he had shown on all matters of business before the House. His voice was frequently heard in the well of the House as he made helpful suggestions on legislative matters and sought to improve measures which he believed to be in need of improvement.

I had a great fondness for TOM OWENS and I believe every Member of the House had the same feeling. I admired his sincerity, his honesty, his frankness. I was amazed at his

boundless energy, his great interest in his work, his tireless efforts in behalf of his constituency. He was faithful in his attendance of the sessions of the House, he knew what was being done and he conscientiously cast has vote on every measure for his country's best interest.

I shall miss him, and so will his district and the Nation. He was my friend.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that every Member may have the privilege of extending his remarks at this point in the Record on the death of THOMAS L. OWENS.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. SIMPSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, due to the intensity, concentration, and hard work, the heart of TOM OWENS required a rest about 10 days ago. That same heart was unable to recover. We of Illinois deeply regret his passing, knowing full well how hard he put his heart and soul into his work here. Mrs. Owens, his son, and two daughters know it far better than we. They are the ones who will suffer the greatest of all concerned. Friends and associates in time, in a busy America forget; an immediate family never.

TOM OWENS, like many Representatives in Congress who have preceded him, worked his heart out, with no relaxation. TOM just did not have time for such things. His every action showed it. Truthful, conscientious, honest, capable, and hard working—typical of most public officials today, whether serving their country, State, county, or city. That was TOM OWENS, and we all know it. While TOM lived, no one can say that he did not live a full, useful, and helpful life for 50 years in his capacity as veteran of the First World War, as an attorney in the city of Chicago, as a too-active Member of

the House, and, more important to him than any other thing, Mrs. Owens and their three children.

Mr. Speaker, I hope sincerely that the citizens of the Seventh Illinois District appreciate with regret the sacrifice TOM OWENS has made in their interests, as we of the Congress knew it existed.

Mr. Speaker, At the Last:

AT THE LAST

There is so little to be said
Within the presence of the dead.
Altho so calm and still they lie,
They know what friends are standing by.
Whose eyes are filled with tears, and who
Have hurried in their tasks to do,
The years have taught them all these things,
Who heeds the doorbell when it rings
Who is the first to come and stay,
And kneel beside the bier and pray:
They know whose hands the flowers arranged,
And if they didn't 't would be strange.
If love has prompted us to give
Devoted service while they lived,
They know that we will carry on
And still be true altho they're gone.
They know we'll do the last sad tasks
Which love or friendship ever asks.
There is so little to be said
Within the presence of the dead,
For always in the lonely room,
Made lovely by a bower of bloom,
Their peaceful faces seem to say:
I knew that you'd be here today.

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, among those newly elected to the Eightieth Congress there was none who more sincerely or assidiously served his country and his own constituents than TOM OWENS.

As the Representative, I believe, of the most populous congressional district in the Nation, containing over a million people, he naturally had an inordinate amount of business

to transact for his own constituents. Yet he found time to study with unusual care every important measure which came before us.

One never fully appreciated TOM OWENS' service until he found himself in disagreement on some issue. Then it was that he discovered the detailed attention TOM had given to the problem and the thorough mastery of the issues he had attained.

This is the first break in the ranks of the new Members. We are inexpressibly saddened. During the last 2 weeks, since he was stricken, TOM, a devout Catholic, has constantly been in the thoughts and prayers of all of us, without regard to religious faith.

We loved him for his buoyant personality, his ready spirit of cooperation, and his almost unparalleled devotion to his duty. The country has lost a valuable legislator and his colleagues as true a friend as ever sat in this Chamber.

To the people of his congressional district, to his colleagues from Illinois, and particularly to Mrs. Owens and his children, and to his brothers who were unusually close to TOM, we offer the deepest sympathy of an admiring, though saddened, House of Representatives.

Mr. STRATTON. Mr. Speaker, we will all miss TOM OWENS. He was a friendly man who attracted people to him, but more than that his intense passion for what he believed to be right and his living Americanism inspired all his many friends.

His life was not long as years are counted, yet his great achievements in those years are a noble monument. His unselfish and devoted life will always be a comfort to his family and to his friends.

Mr. VURSELL. Mr. Speaker, the ranks of the Eightieth Congress again have been broken—this time by the death of our colleague, THOMAS L. OWENS, of Chicago, Ill.

A soldier in his fight for better government has passed to his reward. In his devotion in carrying out his duty to the

Government throughout the past, and this session of Congress, he overtaxed his strength. He, in fact, sacrificed his life in an effort to be of greater service to his country.

THOMAS L. OWENS was one of the outstanding men of the group elected to Congress in 1946. He was a man of exceptional ability, with a most friendly disposition, yet with a dynamic intensity which caused him to attempt to drive himself further in his work than his health would permit, which resulted in his early death.

From a humble beginning he battled his way up against constant odds to one success after another, acquiring a college education, admittance to the bar, and success as a practicing attorney.

A patriot, he rendered outstanding service in World War I, and after the war took an active part as a member of the American Legion in an effort to be helpful to the disabled veterans throughout the past number of years. His life and achievements epitomized the opportunity for success in America for those who are willing to struggle to achieve it.

I join with the other Members of the Illinois delegation, and with the membership of this House, in extending words of condolence and comfort to his wife and children. His deeds and record in life and in this Congress will be a consolation throughout the future to his family and friends, and a lasting memorial to his life and contribution to the Nation.

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, it has been said: Life is a short space between two eternities. Out of the one and into the other runs the relentless race of man.

My friend and colleague, THOMAS L. OWENS, has run his race; he has answered the final call, all too soon in the prime of his life. Although his career in Congress was short, he gave to his State and to the Nation the type of service that stamped him as a statesman. Always mindful that a public office is a public trust, his sterling character never permitted

him to waver in the performance of conscientious duty. Without reservations he put all of himself into every undertaking, no matter how small or how great. Gentle, cheerful, able, honest, attentive to duty—the virtues of noble manhood characterized his life.

A lawyer of prominence, a veteran of World War I, a statesman, an able member of the Education and Labor Committee of the House of Representatives, TOM OWENS can best be described as a gentleman who served his country well. The great and towering monument of public achievement, benefaction, and patriotic service which he left will continue to live in the hearts of a grateful people and his many friends.

May his charming wife and fine children find solace and comfort in the knowledge that their loved one has moved further along toward his cosmic destiny beyond the vision of battling races and an impoverished earth, that he has realized that peace of which we here may catch but a dreaming glimpse.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I, too, am shocked to learn of the death of TOM OWENS. I am proud to boast that he was my friend. Just last week, in order to show how human and thoughtful he was, just last week when I was addressing this House TOM was sitting in the front row here and because my voice was not being carried properly over the microphone he rose, came up here and lifted this mike closer to my face. That was the last time I saw TOM OWENS. It has been my privilege to have served with TOM on an investigating subcommittee. This spring, Mr. OWENS and I along with the gentleman from New York [Mr. Gwinn] conducted an investigation in TOM'S home city of Chicago. The gentleman from New York [Mr. Gwinn] and I were received most hospitably and there was nothing that TOM could not do for us to add to our enjoyment during our stay in that city.

It is a difficult thing, this saying, in effect, good-by to an old and trusted friend. We who remain here in this House

have lost so much that we will never be able to recapture because TOM OWENS has made his mark among us and established a place in our affections. I join with all these gentlemen from Illinois in expressing condolences to his widow and children. May the good Lord bless them in their bereavement is my prayer.

Mr. GOFF. Mr. Speaker, I wish to add the tribute of Idaho to those already so sincerely given by our colleagues from Illinois and elsewhere. I first became acquainted with THOMAS L. OWENS last year when, like him, I was commencing on my first session of Congress. My tribute is dedicated to a great and good man in whom was combined the finest traits of private character, as well as energy and ability as a legislator, that made him outstanding among the many able men with whom it has been my privilege to associate during the Eightieth Congress. He represented a constituency larger in number than any other Member of this body, and literally burned himself out in devoted service to his country and to the people whom he represented. I know how general has been the concern of all of us during the past 2 weeks at the hospital when he made his tenacious struggle for life. This has been evidenced by the numberless quiet conversations at which the latest reports as to his condition were exchanged, and I am sure there have been countless quiet personal prayers that he might be spared us. We can take satisfaction in the thought that if ever a man who has crossed to the other side deserved just reward, TOM OWENS, who was possessed of such deep religious convictions and lived so exemplary a life, has well earned peace in that beyond to which he has departed. It is hard to believe that a man of such tireless energy could be stricken down, but the answer must be that in his complete selflessness, he undertook too much. It was always a marvel to me that he could care so well for the needs of his huge constituency and still devote so much time in following on the floor every major piece of legislation that

has come before us. We shall miss TOM OWENS, and his country could ill spare such a man at this crucial time. It was a great privilege to have known him. We can take inspiration from even the brief time we were associated with him. His was a work well done. Let us strive to emulate his record of constructive service.

Mr. SADLAK. Mr. Speaker, I join with saddened heart in the tribute by my colleagues to THOMAS L. OWENS who passed away this morning.

I did not know TOM OWENS until we met as Members of the Eightieth Congress. Our offices are located opposite each other in the House Office Building and this arrangement provided many opportunities to accompany him to and from the sessions. Further opportunity for promoting a most pleasant and genuine acquainance was provided by the fact that, until recently, we lived in the same hotel where we took a number of meals together and from which hotel we had many times walked, when the weather permitted, or came in the same taxi to our offices. Frequently, we returned to the hotel together from our offices, one waiting for the other.

It was because of these many meetings that a close friendship grew between us, that I learned to admire and respect TOM OWENS, that I knew of his great love for his wife and children, that I learned of his many experiences in public life, noted his keen analysis of pending legislation, and observed that TOM OWENS was a true Christian, a cultured gentleman.

The Representative of the Seventh District of Illinois was an untiring worker for his large constituency. TOM OWENS appreciated the responsibility of that office and was true to his trust. He was able, affable, energetic, persistent. He was deeply and sincerely concerned with the well-being of his fellow men.

The earthly career of TOM OWENS has ended. My deepest sympathy is extended to his family, relatives, and great number of friends in their great loss and sorrow. As far as

I personally am concerned, in the passing of Congressman THOMAS L. OWENS, I have lost a close friend whose friendship I greatly valued. He has entered the greater field—the eternal realm—finding there the reward that comes of honest, helpful service to fellow men.

Mr. FISHER. Mr. Speaker, I join in paying tribute to the memory of TOM OWENS, of Illinois. I was personally grieved on yesterday to learn of his untimely passing. It happened that he and I served on the Education and Labor Committee together—he on the majority side and I on the minority. He was a leading advocate of labor reform legislation and entertained the deepest sympathy for the rights of the laboring man. With that feeling in mind, he helped write the so-called Taft-Hartley Act, which includes a bill of rights for the wage earners of the country. It was my privilege to work with him on that committee and on a number of rather important subcommittee assignments. He never flinched when his duty was involved. Political considerations with him were always secondary. His thought was to do what was right, regardless of consequences.

During my 6 years of service in this House I can turthfully say that I have not yet observed a Member more devoid of demagoguery and more sincerely devoted to his trust than TOM OWENS. He was an able man and a tireless worker. When there was a job to do he was always ready. I have heard him question witnesses in his incomparable manner. They simply could not evade him, and if there was a weakness in their positions OWENS picked it up and made the most of it. He asked no quarter and gave none. It is truly tragic that such men should pass on. God give us more men like TOM OWENS.

Mr. MACKINNON. Mr. Speaker, it was my good fortune to serve on the Labor Committee with TOM OWENS—he liked to be called TOM. In the Labor Committee we were seatmates ever since January 1947 when we both came to Congress. In

the Labor Committee meetings we sat together and discussed on an intimate personal basis, as members do under such circumstances, all the legislation and testimony which came before that committee. We sat together through the months of hearings on the labor law. It was then that I came to know TOM OWENS. In my opinion he was the greatest authority on labor law in the United States Congress. The breadth of his experience in this field was unmatched by any other Member and his broad knowledge proved extremely beneficial to the entire committee on many occasions.

Much has been said here today of the fine qualities of TOM OWENS. I concur in those remarks except I believe they understate his fine character. We have not found suitable words to express his exemplary qualities. From my close personal relationship with him I found him ever able, informed, courageous, and sincere. He knew his subject and he spoke with conviction for the right as he saw it.

I especially wish to pay tribute to two specific contributions to the national labor relations law passed at the last session, to which he gave valuable support. He was one of the new members on the committee who joined in a small group to preserve what he and others of us considered to be fundamental rights of the individual. As a result of this endeavor the legislation which resulted provided protection of the union shop and industry-wide bargaining. This was a substantial contribution to this legislation and TOM OWENS played a major part in preserving these features that are so necessary if labor and management are to meet on a basis of equality.

TOM, we will miss you. Hail and farewell.

Mr. DAVIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, my acquaintance with Congressman OWENS dated from the occasion of a radio broadcast from one of the Washington radio stations early in January 1947, at which some of the new Members of Congress were being interviewed. As I came to know him better my respect and friendship for him increased. I liked him be-

cause he was courageous, sincere, and honest. There was nothing artificial or affected about him. He did not care whether his convictions were on the popular side of a question or not. His love for America and her institutions was not limited by any narrow sectionalism. He represented all sections of America—north, south, east, and west. In his passing our country has lost a valuable and faithful public servant.

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, it was with deep regret that I learned this morning of the untimely passing of my good friend, THOMAS L. OWENS, of Chicago, Ill. I did not have the pleasure of knowing TOM OWENS until we were sworn in as Members of the Eightieth Congress on January 3, 1947. In this short period of time I learned to know TOM as a real American who was greatly interested in the welfare of his country, his State, and his district, and he was willing to expend all of his energy in carrying out his responsibility to the people he represented.

Mr. Speaker, TOM OWENS was one of the most industrious Members of this body, always full of vim, vigor, and enthusiasm. It is almost unbelievable that a man so robust and vigorous, at least on the surface, should be stricken and removed from our midst so quickly.

On occasions of this kind I always like to think of the poem, "He is not dead; he is just away," which reads as follows:

> You cannot say, you must not say,
> That he is dead; he is just away.
> With a cheery smile and a wave of the hand
> He has wandered into an unknown land,
> And left us dreaming how very fair
> It needs must be, since he lingers there;
> So think of him faring on, as dear
> In the love of there as the love of here;
> Think of him still as the same, and say,
> "He is not dead, he is just away."

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my heartfelt sympathy to the loved ones of THOMAS L. OWENS at this time of their great bereavement. May God grant them strength, fortitude, solace, and faith to bear up under their loss of a faithful husband and loving father. May God rest his soul in peace forevermore.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. Speaker, the death of my colleague, Representative TOM OWENS, of Illinois, has saddened me greatly. It seems only such a short time ago that I talked with him, and now he has gone from among us. In life, we are in the midst of death.

TOM OWENS was a fine, sincere, and intelligent Member of Congress. He was tremendously interested in the problems of this Nation in particular, and of the world in general. He was an earnest and hard-working man, and his intense application to his job undoubtedly hastened his death.

We served together on the Education and Labor Committee, and as the months passed, I learned to respect him and to value highly his friendship. He would go out of his way to assist an associate in meeting a difficult situation. TOM OWENS is one of those human beings who will be sorley missed by those who were acquainted with him. He was a clean, honorable man, a devout churchman, and a credit to Congress, the governing body of this great Nation.

I do not know his family, but they have my heartfelt sympathy in this their unfortunate period of bereavement. My sincere hope is that a loving, understanding God and the passage of time will ease for them the pain of his departure.

Mr. DAGUE. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Record, I am moved with a deep sense of personal loss to mark the passing of our beloved friend and colleague, THOMAS L. OWENS, and to join with the Members of this House in paying tribute to his outstanding service in behalf of his community, his State, and the Nation.

It is my privilege to enjoy the close friendship of a near neighbor and constituent of Brother OWENS, and that fact served to bring us closely together in the opening days of our first session. From that early and cherished acquaintance there grew with me an appreciation of TOM'S fervent zeal and great energy, and I found myself not infrequently lamenting the fact that I could not even approximate the high type of service he rendered his constituents from the start.

Now he is gone—a casualty in this eternal warfare to bring order out of the chaos into which our governmental processes have deteriorated. Now he has shed the habiliments of the warrior he was and we are left to mourn his recall at a time when he is needed most.

To those loved ones who are left to mourn his going away, we can only offer our heartfelt condolences and, at the same time, commend them to an abiding faith in that great design through which we will all be reunited in a better land with those whom we have loved and lost for a while.

Mr. SMITH of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, the sudden passing of our friend and colleague, TOM OWENS, was a shock to all of us, and in his going I feel a personal loss.

I first met Mr. OWENS in Chicago shortly after the 1946 congressional elections. At that time Mr. OWENS and his wife and Mrs. Smith and I were the guests of mutual friends, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Niehoff, of the city of Chicago. Our hosts were constituents of Mr. OWENS, and since that first meeting we have been warm personal friends.

Mr. Speaker, I came to appreciate the character and integrity of our departed colleague by discussing with him the merits of legislation before this House. He was a vigorous young man and at all times considered the interests of his country above personal, political advantages. His work on the Taft-Hartley bill will forever be a monument to his endeavors as a legislator. TOM OWENS was a man of great industry and that was evidenced by his work, not only on

the floor but also in his social contacts. He was always the life of the party on every occasion.

His loss is a considerable one to this body and to his country. His wife and children have suffered irreparable loss, but they can be comforted in the fact that as a husband and father he has left his impact upon this body and his district. We shall miss TOM OWENS in the days ahead. He had a very bright future. Only God in his wisdom can understand TOM'S departure from this life. May God bless his soul.

Mr. REED of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I do not have to remind the Members of this House that the late TOM OWENS, of the Seventh Illinois District, had a wide interest in matters of government and was a keen student of the process of government.

Not long before he was tragically stricken he initiated a study in his own office of the perplexing problem of improving relations between the States and the Federal Government, in the technical sense—that is, in improving the mechanics for Federal-State relationships.

He took a keen interest in the unique position of the American Vice President, who is officially regarded as an executive but performs only legislative duties, that of presiding over the United States Senate. Believing this important official of our Government should be given greater responsibilities of a character in which, ordinarily, he is most admirably fitted, Representative OWENS commenced study of a proposed draft of legislation that would accomplish this result.

TOM did not live to see the results of what he had started, but I feel that the Members of this House and all students of government matters will want to see what was developed at his initiative.

I am therefore introducing today, as I am sure TOM would if he had lived, for consideration and discussion between now and the next session of Congress a bill designed to cover these purposes.

Mr. McCOWEN. Mr. Speaker, the sudden passing of our distinguished colleague, Hon. THOMAS L. OWENS, came as a distinct shock to all Members of the House of Representatives and particularly to the members of the Committee on Education and Labor, of which he was a valuable member. He was also a member of the Subcommittee on Education of the Committee on Education and Labor, of which it is my honor to be chairman.

In all of the hearings before the full committee and also before the Subcommittee on Education, TOM always took an active part. He had a keen mind, was very aggressive, but always fair. As chairman of the Subcommittee on Education, I desire to say with all sincerity that Hon. THOMAS L. OWENS will be greatly missed. He undoubtedly spent much time in the study of questions before the committee, as well as before the House, for he always had accurate information. Although this was his first term in the House, he was rapidly becoming an outstanding Member in that body.

To his wife and children, we express our deepest sympathy and know that they, like TOM, will put their trust in Him "who doeth all things well."

But I will not say he is dead, for his life and deeds will live on and on.

No; I cannot and I will not say
That he is dead.
He is just away!
With a cheery smile and a wave of the hand.
He has entered into that unknown land.

* * * * *

Think of him still as the same, I say.
He is not dead. He's just away.

Mr. HARTLEY. Mr. Speaker, I cannot let this occasion pass without adding my voice to those of my colleagues who have expressed their deep regret at the passing of TOM OWENS.

As chairman of the House Committee on Education and Labor, let me say that Representative OWENS' absence from this body will be felt most seriously.

Although he was serving his first term in Congress, TOM had a breadth of experience and background in labor law and its administration that placed him in the forefront of all the discussions in this field. His contribution to the development of the Taft-Hartley Act cannot be underestimated.

Aside from my official regret at the passing of a man who was an expert in the field with which I am most familiar, I want to say that I feel an even deeper personal loss.

TOM OWENS was my friend in the finest sense of the word. I always felt I could depend upon him whenever the going was toughest.

At no time was my confidence and trust misplaced.

This Congress and the Nation has lost a statesman.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may desire to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Church].

Mr. CHURCH. Mr. Speaker, I was shocked and deeply grieved to learn this morning of the death of my good friend the distinguished gentleman from the State of Illinois, THOMAS L. OWENS. His passing is a great loss, not only to the State of Illinois but to the Nation. I join in extending my sincere sympathy to his widow and three children in their great loss and sorrow.

For many years he has been active in the public service—as a practicing lawyer, on various committees of the Illinois State Bar Association and American Bar Association, and as an arbitrator in labor disputes by appointment of the United States circuit court of appeals.

He was elected to the House of Representatives in November 1946 and has served the Seventh District, which is one of the largest districts of the United States, untiringly and with distinction. His untiring effort in the service of his

country was always for what he believed was right. He loved his service because he strove always for the right. It is tragic that a man of such ability should die so young. It is a tribute to his ability that he was able to accomplish so much in a short and busy life.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Johnson].

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, a week ago last Friday, just before leaving to take a train for the west coast, I called the office of TOM OWENS, as I had been doing regularly, and was heartened to hear that he was improving. I just got off the train from the west coast a couple of hours ago. When I reached the Capitol Grounds there was the usual sign that tells us that one of our number is gone—the flag at half-mast.

If you will pardon me at this moment, I want to tell you that I was attending a world conference on moral rearmament in Los Angeles, which was attended by the most prominent leaders of 27 nations. Their one underlying theme is the preservation of Christian democracy. I know of no other living creature that portrays that theme better than TOM OWENS did. He was courageous. He loved his country and was sincere at all times. As one of the other Members has stated, he was, in effect, a casualty in the war against subversive movements. He worked hard—he gave his life. In every Congress there are always a few outstanding men. TOM OWENS was one such man in the Eightieth Congress. He stood out among all the rest. His courage, sincerity, and constant attendance to duty might be emulated by all of us.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Vail].

Mr. VAIL. Mr. Speaker, TOM OWENS has left us—but in our hearts will ever remain the indelible impress of his memory.

The traditions of this body have been enriched beyond measure by the intensity of his devotion to his country—an intensity that was directed without thought of personal sacrifice to the affairs of our Nation and which took toll of his physical strength beyond endurance.

TOM OWENS gave his life to his country as heroically as a soldier on the battlefield, and he has earned an honored place among those immortals whose memories are cherished by a grateful Nation.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. Kersten].

Mr. KERSTEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago Saturday on a beautiful sunny afternoon at about 5 o'clock, I was walking near the House Office Building. I met TOM on the sidewalk. We stopped a minute and talked. I had been troubled about a certain problem which was bothering me pertaining to legislation. It was my problem at the time, but I mentioned it to him, and in his usual spontaneous, sympathetic manner he tackled it as though it were his own.

He gave me some very good advice. He took the problem unto himself. The average person probably would have brushed the trouble aside, but TOM did not do that. It was typical of him to take every problem that was presented to him very sincerely, very directly, and to give his best to the solution of the matter, even though it meant nothing to him personally but his own grief.

Together with the others who have spoken today, I tender my deepest sympathy to his widow and his children. But there is in Congressman TOM OWENS' last 2 years of life, during which we knew him, a great consolation to his widow and his children in the fact that he truly was a casualty of this Congress; a willing sacrifice for his country in its present grave difficulties and conflicts. TOM OWENS did die for his country.

This Congress has been one confronted with the most fundamental problems and conflicts, more so than any Con-

gress since the beginning of our country. TOM was close to those problems. He was a member of the Labor Committee, and there I worked by his side and learned of his keen insight into that most difficult of modern questions, labor-management relationship. Then you will recall how he threw himself into the ERP legislation, a measure that will affect the fate of the world and answer the question of world peace. We are, of course, in that conflict now, in a cold world war III. TOM was in the middle of that war, in the major battles of that war. He contributed much to the solution of it. He fell fighting in that war as any great soldier falls.

Draped around him now is the flag that bedecks this room. The white of his purity of purpose and sincerity; the blue of his passion for truth; the red of his courage with which he approached his duty. He fell fighting for his country as a great patriot and a great statesman. The heart of THOMAS OWENS burst with love of his native land. He loved his fellow men.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, I present the following resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read as follows (H. Res. 645):

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. THOMAS L. OWENS, a Representative from the State of Illinois.

Resolved, That a committee of four Members of the House with such Members of the Senate as may be joined be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provision of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following Members on the part of the House to attend the funeral: Mr. Twymann, Mr. Vail, Mr. Busbey, and Mr. O'Brien.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the remainder of the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

The resolution was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 59 minutes p. m.), pursuant to its order heretofore entered, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 8, 1948, at 10 o'clock a. m.

TUESDAY, *June 8, 1948.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Frazier, its legislative clerk, announced that the Senate had adopted the following resolution (S. Res. 253):

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. THOMAS L. OWENS, late a Representative from the State of Illinois.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Presiding Officer of the Senate to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the Senate, at the conclusion of its business today, take a recess until 11 o'clock a. m. tomorrow.

The message also announced that, pursuant to the above resolution, Mr. Lucas and Mr. Brooks were appointed members of the committee on the part of the Senate.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

MONDAY, *June 7, 1948.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Maurer, one of its reading clerks, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. THOMAS L. OWENS, late a Representative from the State of Illinois, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate a resolution from the House of Representatives, which will be read.

The resolution (H. Res. 645) was read, as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. THOMAS L. OWENS, a Representative from the State of Illinois.

Resolved, That a committee of four Members of the House with such Members of the Senate as may be joined be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provision of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. President, it is with profound sorrow that I announce to the Senate the unfortunate death of a dear friend and colleague, Hon. THOMAS L. OWENS, Republican, Member of the House of Representatives from the Seventh Illinois District in the city of Chicago.

Mr. OWENS died at 3:15 this morning in the Naval Hospital at Bethesda following a brief illness. He was admitted to the hospital on May 23 after being stricken by a heart attack.

Congressman OWENS was elected to the Eightieth Congress on November 5, 1946, and was a candidate for reelection this year, having been renominated by his constituency in the Illinois primary on April 13.

He was a native and lifelong resident of Illinois, having been born in the city of Chicago on December 1, 1897. He was educated in St. Bridget's Parochial School in Chicago, at Northwestern University, De Paul University, and Loyola University, holding the degrees of LL. B., and LL. M. Mr. OWENS was admitted to the bar in 1927 and practiced law in Chicago.

He held membership in the Chicago, the Illinois State, and American Bar Associations, the Delta Theta Phi law fraternity, and the North Shore Post, No. 21, the American Legion, having served in the United States Army in World War I.

Survivors are his widow, Emma Florence Ekberg Owens; one son, Charles John; two daughters, Colleen Joan and Carol Jane; his mother, Mrs. Hannah Owens; three sisters, Mrs. Mary G. Rinn, Mrs. Margaret Cronin, Mrs. Kathryn Shelly; three brothers, Maurice L. Owens, James W. Owens, and John E. Owens.

As a leading member of the House Committee on Education and Labor, Mr. OWENS devoted himself diligently to the study of legislation before it, and attended many important subcommittee hearings in various parts of the United States. These travels, coupled with his many other duties in Washington and in his district, undoubtedly brought about the strain and worry which contributed to the condition causing his untimely and obviously premature death.

Mr. OWENS served his constituency with loyalty, distinction, and devotion. I might add that from the standpoint of population, his district, the Seventh Illinois District, was the largest of the 435 congressional districts throughout the United States, consisting of approximately 1,050,000 persons.

Despite warnings by his physician, he delayed going to the hospital for more than 2 days because of his desire to answer roll calls and attend other duties in the House of Representatives. Had Mr. OWENS taken a rest when ordered, I might not today be paying tribute to his memory.

To these constituents, to his Government, to this Congress, and to the loved ones who mourn him, TOM OWENS has truly paid his last full measure of devotion.

Mr. President, I send to the desk a resolution which I ask to have read, and for which I ask present consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be read.

The resolution (S. Res. 253) was read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. THOMAS L. OWENS, late a Representative from the State of Illinois.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Presiding Officer of the Senate to joint the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Under the second resolving clause the Presiding Officer appointed Mr. Brooks and Mr. Lucas as the committee on the part of the Senate to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative, I move that when the Senate concludes its business today it take a recess until 11 o'clock a. m. tomorrow.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. WHERRY. Mr. President, I believe the work of the Senate has been completed for tonight. Therefore under

the order previously entered, I move that, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Representative THOMAS L. OWENS, of Illinois, the Senate take a recess until 11 o'clock a. m. tomorrow.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 10 o'clock and 20 minutes p. m.) the Senate took a recess until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 8, 1948, at 11 o'clock a. m.

Date Due

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